

(Four trillion, forty-four billion, twenty-one million)

Ten years ago, September 2, 1987, the Federal debt stood at \$2,358,780,000,000. (Two trillion, three hundred fifty-eight billion, seven hundred eighty million)

Fifteen years ago, September 2, 1982, the Federal debt stood at \$1,109,939,000,000 (One trillion, one hundred nine billion, nine hundred thirty-nine million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$4 trillion—\$4,314,429,836,901.08 (Four trillion, three hundred fourteen billion, four hundred twenty-nine million, eight hundred thirty-six thousand, nine hundred one dollars and eight cents) during the past 15 years.

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. RICHARD LESHER

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise to pay a word of tribute to Dr. Richard Leshner, outgoing president of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. President, it has been my pleasure to know and work with Dick Leshner since I was a freshman Member of the Senate. We have served in the army of free enterprise in many important legislative battles. Dick was a dedicated fighter for small businesses.

Dick can also be justifiably proud of the growth and success of the U.S. Chamber over the last 22 years. During his tenure as president, the Chamber has grown to 215,000 strong.

The Chamber has also expanded its information services to include television. "First Business" is carried on 42 local stations, the USA Latin American channel, and USIA's WorldNet. "It's Your Business" is seen on USA Cable Network and 140 stations around the country.

Dick Leshner also took very seriously the Chamber's responsibility to help educate the next generation of business leaders and created the Center for Workforce Preparation.

These are just a few of Dick Leshner's many accomplishments as president of the flagship business organization in our country.

But, Dick is a man we can appreciate as much for who he is as for what he did. I have always known Dick Leshner to be straightforward and honest. He never pulled punches. You knew where you stood. And, even if Dick disagreed on a matter of policy, he admired his opponents' convictions. Such a fair-minded attitude sets the stage for alliances on other issues. And, I have always believed, having genuine respect for everyone on the playing field is not only good business, it is a hallmark of good character.

Dick is leaving the Chamber to return to his hometown in Chambersburg, PA. I wish him all the best in his new home and, hopefully, more relaxed lifestyle.

But, while he will be leaving the day-to-day battles on labor and tax policy to his successor, I do not believe for a minute that he is retiring. I know that he will remain informed and engaged in

the myriad of issues that affect the health and growth prospects of American business. And, I look forward to his continued counsel and insights.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

##### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting treaties and sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill, previously received from the House of Representatives for the concurrence of the Senate, was read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.R. 765. An act to ensure maintenance of a herd of wild horses in Cape Lookout National Seashore; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-2875. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, the sequestration update report for fiscal year 1998; referred jointly, pursuant to the order of August 1977, to the Committee on the Budget and to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2876. A communication from the Administrator of the Health Care Financing Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "End-Stage Renal Disease Payment Exception Requests and Organ Procurement Costs" (RIN0938-AG20) received on August 26, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2877. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Branch, U.S. Customs Services, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Duty-Free Treatment of Articles Imported From U.S. Insular Possessions" (RIN1515-AB14) received on August 28, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2878. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, the report of the texts of international agreements, other than treaties, and background statements; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2879. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of Presidential Determination 97-30; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. MOYNIHAN (for himself, Mr. D'AMATO, and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 1142. A bill to repeal the provision in the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 relating to the termination of certain exceptions from rules relating to exempt organizations which provide commercial-type insurance; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ALLARD (for himself and Mr. CAMPBELL):

S. 1143. A bill to prohibit commercial air tours over the Rocky Mountain National Park; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MOYNIHAN (for himself and Mr. D'AMATO):

S. 1144. A bill disapproving the cancellation transmitted by the President on August 11, 1997, regarding Public Law 105-33; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GRAMS:

S. 1145. A bill to amend the Social Security Act to provide simplified and accurate information on the social security trust funds, and personal earnings and benefit estimates to eligible individuals; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ASHCROFT:

S. 1146. A bill to amend title 17, United States Code, to provide limitations on copyright liability relating to material on-line, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. SPECTER, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. BIDEN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. DODD, Mr. GRAHAM, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN):

S. Res. 118. A resolution expressing the condolences on the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, and designating September 6, 1997, as a "National Day of Recognition for the Humanitarian Efforts of Diana Princess of Wales."; considered and agreed to.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. MOYNIHAN (for himself, Mr. D'AMATO and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 1142. A bill to repeal the provision in the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 relating to the termination of certain exceptions from rules relating to exempt organizations which provide commercial-type insurance; to the Committee on Finance.

##### LEGISLATION REPEALING CERTAIN PROVISION OF THE TAXPAYER RELIEF ACT

Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce legislation that would repeal an irrational provision of the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997. I refer to section 1042 of that act, which took away the tax exempt status of TIAA-CREF, the Teacher's Insurance Annuity Association College Retirement Equities Fund. The legislation I am introducing today, with Senators D'AMATO